



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mitchell, *et al.*

Examiner: Sullivan, D.

Serial Number: 09/931,506

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Attorney Docket: 2002906-0002
(Duke #1681)

Title: DECELLULARIZED TISSUE ENGINEERED CONSTRUCTS

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

This **Response to Office Action** is filed in response to the Office Action mailed 03/31/2003, rejecting claims 132-147, 149-167, 182-186, 187, 192, 193, 195, 199-201, 203, and 204 and objecting to claims 148, 185, 188-191, 194, 196-198, and 202 of the above-referenced application. The cited references are Bruchman *et al.* (1995) WO 95/29712 (hereinafter Bruchman '712), Bruchman *et al.*, (1997) WO 97/46266 (hereinafter Bruchman '266), Bruchman *et al.* (March 1999) U.S. Patent No. 5,879,383 (hereinafter Bruchman '383) and Niklason *et al.* (1999) *Science* 284:489-493 (hereinafter Niklason, *et al.*). The following amendments and remove all grounds for rejection of the application, thereby placing it in condition for allowance.

Please amend the claims as indicated on the following pages. In particular, please cancel claims 1-147, 149-184, 186, 187, 191 – 195, and 199 – 218, without prejudice to their presentation in a continuing application.

Please amend claims 148, 185, 188-90, 194, and 196-198.

No new matter is added by these amendments.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313

on 19-30-03

Sandra Saccoccia